

MICHIGAN SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAM

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CURRICULUM, BIRTH – GRADE 12/EARLY CHILDHOOD AND PARENTING PROGRAMS

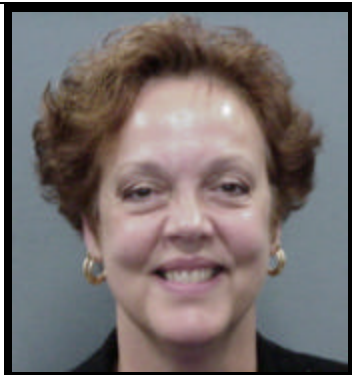
October 2000 Update

Lindy Buch, Supervisor

Reneé De Mars-Johnson, Coordinator

Early Childhood Consultants

Carol Breen, Margaret Goodly, Cheryl Hall, Connie Robinson, Barbara Roth-Grondin



Cheryl Hall, Consultant

Please welcome Cheryl Hall as the newest consultant joining the cadre of Early Childhood and Parenting Programs consultants. Prior to accepting her position as consultant with MDE, Cheryl lived and worked in Washington, D.C. where she supervised five inclusive child development centers under the auspices of Easter Seals. Cheryl's responsibilities for Early Childhood and Parenting Programs include providing technical assistance, on-site monitoring and reviews, as well as program consultation for Even Start and Michigan School Readiness Program grantees. "Early childhood is where differences can be made. That's been my mantra since I decided to be an educator when I was in second grade. Since I love to travel, I look forward to visiting many of your programs in the coming school year."

MSRP ADVISORY COUNCIL

Fall is a great time of year to bring advisory council members together. A report by the Children's Defense Fund says, "Local advisory councils including such representatives as superintendents, child-care directors, and parents can make collaborations between public schools and child-care providers run more smoothly." Districts and public school academies that meet as countywide advisory committees must also each have a local curriculum committee. Local advisory councils may incorporate the requirements of the curriculum committee into the advisory council. For more information on the membership and responsibilities of this legislative requirement, please refer to the MSRP Implementation Manual, Section 4, Center-Based Model. If you would like a copy of the Children's Defense Fund tips for working together, phone (202) 628-8787.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY BUDGETS DUE FOR 1999-2000

Consultants have been working to complete their reviews of Narrative Summary forms and MSRP applications. Changes in both the Narrative Summary (Year End Report) and grant applications have streamlined the process for reporting and reviews. Additional Narrative Summary forms and report forms are available by accessing our web site at: www.state.mi.us/mde/off/staa/earlychild/index.htm. For Michigan School Readiness Programs financed through State Aid, an Actual Final Expenditures Report, including Summary and Detail, for the 1999-2000 MSRP allocation is due November 15, 2000. If

requesting carry-over, the Actual Final Expenditures Report must be submitted with the Carry-Over Budget Request Form by October 18, 2000. Carry-over requests cannot be honored later than this date, due to the legal approval process deadline. Carry-over expenditures must be exhausted by June 30, 2001, or any unspent funds will be recovered by the State. These are for expenses that will be incurred after September 30, 2000. DO NOT report carry-over funds on FY 2000-2001 reporting forms. The Actual Final Expenditures plus the Carry-Over Request must total the district's/consortium's 1999-2000 allocation. Questions may be referred to the consultant assigned to the district.

For Michigan School Readiness Program Competitive Grant Contacts, DS-4044, the on-line Final Expenditure Report, is due November 30, 2000. The Budget Detail of Actual Final Expenditures is also due November 30, 2000. The Budget Detail must match the DS-4044 and be submitted to Michigan Department of Education at the same address as on the Narrative Summary Report. Please note that a Budget Summary is not required. If you have questions about the Michigan School Readiness Program Competitive Grant, please call Carol Breen at (517) 373-8664.

REMINDER

Michigan School Readiness Program State Aid grantees should submit a request for budget revision when the total for a line item function is changed by more than 10 percent from the signed approved budget. Requests for a budget revision may be made at any time.

KUDOS

Staff, community and parents from the Newaygo County Daycare Corporation (NCDCC) in Croton and Michigan Child Care Centers-Kinder Kare in Saginaw definitely have reason to celebrate. More than 700 nominations were received for the Governor's Quality Care Awards started by Governor John Engler in 1998. The awards program recognizes outstanding state-licensed day care homes and centers, nursing homes, hospices, homes for the aged and adult foster care facilities. NCDCC and Michigan Child Care Centers-Kinder Kare sites are two of 51 recipients of this award. Congratulations!

ACREDITATION INFORMATION

Michigan 4C Association has funding to continue to reward programs that have completed Accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Upon proof of successful completion of the accreditation process, programs may receive a \$500 incentive. Programs need to submit a photocopy of their accreditation certificate along with details about their program. Contact your local 4C office for information about this incentive program as well as information about funds available to help pay for accreditation costs.

QUESTIONS FROM THE FIELD

In this column, consultants will respond to questions from the field. You may e-mail questions you would like included in the *Update* to Connie Robinson at:

robinsonconnie@state.mi.us. Questions will be forwarded to the appropriate consultant for a response. Here's a sample submitted at the Fall Kick-Off:

"One of the remarks about our unsuccessful attempt for this grant (Full-Day Program) last year was that the goals (we wrote) were not (program) goals. Explain please what the program goals should focus on."

Program goals are those goals the teaching team identifies based on program philosophy, curriculum model or educational approach, child development and program evaluation. The Michigan School Readiness Program uses the Program Quality Assessment Tool (PQA) to monitor classroom practices, planning and evaluation procedures, and parent involvement activities. The results of the assessment are then used to identify goals, training needs and activities. A new program may spend the first year with goals in the area of Learning Environment, Daily Routine, and Staff Qualifications/Staff Development. Districts and agencies should choose annual goals specific to each program as a result of systematic ongoing program evaluation. Research indicates it is high-quality programs that make significant positive differences in the development of Michigan's very young children. For a report of the current findings, please see the *Executive Summary* online at www.highscope.org/research/michres2.htm and the *Points of Light* report online at www.highscope.org/msrp/support.

FALL KICK-OFF A SUCCESS

Over 380 participants attended the Fall Kick-Off in Mt. Pleasant on September 15, 2000. The one-day conference focused on helping districts use program evaluation to write goals and objectives for continuous program improvement. Staff from the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation and Early Childhood and Parenting Programs are using input from conference evaluations to plan future workshops that will meet the needs of both new and experienced program providers. A video of the training will be available soon. Teaching teams are encouraged to use the video for local training. Watch for the *Using Program Evaluation for Continuous Program Improvement* video order form on the website. You may contact your consultant with any questions.

Each MSRP director and classroom lead teacher who attended the Fall Kick-Off was provided a copy of the MSRP Implementation Manual. The MSRP Implementation Manual can be viewed or downloaded by accessing our website www.state.mi.us/mde/off/staa/earlychild/index.htm. As you become familiar with the MSRP Implementation Manual, please complete the Feedback Form available on the website and return to the attention of Connie Robinson. FAX (517) 335-0592.

CONFERENCE, WORKSHOP AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The 2001 Michigan Collaborative Early Childhood Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn on January 25-26, 2001 with a Preconference on January 24. Registration materials will be mailed by November 1, 2000. Registration deadline is January 2, 2001. For more information contact Early Childhood and Parenting Programs at (517) 373-8483.

The Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children (MiAEYC) Early Childhood Conference will be held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and Grand Rapids Convention Center, Grand Rapids, March 29-31, 2001. For more information, call (888) 666-2392.

The Kindergarten-Primary Conference will be held Thursday, February 1, 2001 in Lansing. For more information call MiAEYC at (800) 336-6424.

Michigan Literacy Progress Profile (MLPP): Check with your local ISD to see if training is being offered in your area or a neighboring ISD.

Michigan School Readiness Program Training Workshops	
<i>Bay-Arenac ISD, 4228 Two Mile Road, Bay City, MI</i>	
November 30 – December 1	PQA
January 12	PQA Follow Up
March 9	Evaluation Design
<i>Montcalm ISD, St. Paul's Church, 305 S. Clay St., Greenville, MI</i>	
November 16-17	PQA
<i>Ottawa Area ISD, 13565 Port Sheldon Road, Holland, MI</i>	
November 3	Computer COR
December 7-8	PQA
January 12	PQA Follow Up
March 9	Evaluation Design
<i>Copper Country ISD, High/Scope Foundation, 600 River Street, Ypsilanti, MI</i>	
December 8	Computer COR
January 11-12	PQA
February 9	PQA Follow Up
March 16	Evaluation Design
For a complete listing, check the Web at http://www.highscope.org/msrp/main.htm or call the registrar at (734) 485-2000, ext. 218	

IMPORTANT DATES

For State Aid Michigan School Readiness Programs

- Carry-Over Budget Request Form is due October 18, 2000.
- Actual Final Expenditures Report is due November 15, 2000

For Competitive Michigan School Readiness Programs

- DS-4044, on-line final expenditure report, due November 30, 2000.
- Budget Detail of Actual Final Expenditures, due November 30, 2000, submitted in hard copy to our office.

Technical Assistance Workshops

Technical assistance sessions will be offered for:

- Michigan School Readiness Program; Comprehensive Community Needs and Resources Assessment (CNRA)
- Think Tank discussion of program issues using the MSRP Implementation Manual
- School-Age Child Care Grant Program
- Competitive Grants for Full-Day Services for Michigan School Readiness Programs and Head Start programs (Full-Day Program)

Information on these technical assistance workshops is enclosed and will also be available on our web site at: www.state.mi.us/mde/off/staa/earlychild/index.htm.

EXCITING WEBSITES

www.nectas.unc.edu/inclusion/default.html Advancing the Dialogue for Including Young Children with Disabilities in Their Communities
www.stophitting.com/ The Center for Effective Discipline
www.iamyourchild.org/ Order educational materials on-line
www.nospank.org/nszone2.htm Free poster

REACHING THE MSRP STAFF

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Please do not hesitate to contact the Early Childhood and Parenting Programs at (517) 373-8483 with any questions!
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